

JOHNSON THE NEW CHAMPION

COLORED HEAVYWEIGHT WINS IN FOURTEENTH ROUND.

Tommy Burns loses the title in the Big Fight at Sydney, the Police Stopping the Mill and Johnson Getting the Decision—White Man Is Outclassed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Dec. 26.—Jack Johnson, the American negro, won the heavy-weight championship of the world here this morning in the fourteenth round. He had Tommy Burns of Canada, the title holder, in such a condition that the police ordered the fight stopped, whereupon Referee Hugh D. McIntosh awarded the decision to Johnson amid a wild scene.

Johnson outclassed Burns in practically every respect. He was faster in attack and defence, delivered the more accurate and powerful blows and gradually wore the white man down.

Burns was the aggressor at the outset and indulged in hard rushing, the idea being to land a knockout blow in the first round. But Johnson was too clever for him. The negro was so shifty on his feet that he was a difficult matter for Burns to reach a vital spot, and he soon discovered that he was up against a most puzzling proposition.

When Johnson cut loose he generally landed. His left hand was used with telling effect. Burns was repeatedly jostled and jarred with it. Johnson worked the left on the white man's head and stomach and saved the right for a critical moment.

In generalship Johnson was the master. He was cool headed and never lost a trick. He followed Sam Fitzpatrick's instructions to the letter and as the battle progressed in his favor the negro's confidence increased until it was a foregone conclusion that he would win.

At times the slugging by both men was terrific. Blood was drawn by each fighter and as the battle raged 25,000 spectators watched with intense interest. Burns looked as if he might be stopped at any moment. Johnson was punching him all over the ring when the police broke up the fight.

The referee had no alternative but to declare Johnson the winner and the verdict appeared to meet with general approval. Johnson scored a clean knockout in the first round. He caught Burns coming to him and nailed him on the jaw with a great left hand uppercut. Burns was on the floor for four seconds, and when he came back he was so dazed that he was unable to defend himself. Johnson landed a blow on Burns' head as strong as ever, but in a fierce mixup he slipped and fell. He was up quickly and mixed it until Johnson was tired and then made it close like an oyster. Burns rushed and swung wildly, the negro dancing away and then stepping in with fierce attacks.

Johnson showed so much superiority that Burns' followers were thunderstruck. The negro was so swift that he made Burns look like a green amateur at times.

Johnson continued to outpoint the white man in the fourth round. The colored boxer missed very few blows and fought with great accuracy. Burns was continually laughing at Burns until the latter was furious. Johnson showed that he was the master at all stages and at this early period it looked to be a sure thing that Burns would be beaten.

Burns was desperate in the fifth round and rushed to close quarters. He landed several hard swings on the negro's head, but no real damage was done. Then Johnson beat him off with feinting left hands, which drew the blood from Burns' damaged eye and nose.

Burns fought wildly in the sixth round, using many swings and punches. Johnson showed a clean knockout in the seventh round and Burns was groggy when he arose. The white man was unable to save himself and stuck out the round.

From the seventh to the end of the twelfth round Johnson proceeded to put it all over Burns. He cut Tommy's mouth open with his hands and he kept repeating. Burns was game and took the whipping without a sign of flinching.

Johnson knocked Burns down again with a right hander on the jaw in the thirteenth round. Burns was so dazed that he was unable to defend himself and he received such a merciless beating that when the round ended the police wanted to interfere. But Burns told them that he was well and strong and they let him go.

When the fourteenth round started Johnson rushed to finish his man. He rained a storm of blows on Burns' head and body and finally knocked the Canadian to the floor. Burns was so dazed that he was unable to get up and he was so tired that he was unable to defend himself.

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VERDI'S "OTELLO" REVIVED

ZENATELLO AND MELBA THE PRINCIPALS.

A Most Enthusiastic Audience at the Metropolitan Opera House—Sammorco as Iago—The Significant Force of the Music Again Makes an Impression.

Oscar Hammerstein brought forward at his Manhattan Opera House last night Verdi's "Otello." His purpose was to afford Melba another opportunity to appear in a rôle unfamiliar to this public and to permit his patrons to observe the workings of profound dramatic interests in the impersonation of the operatic Moor by Mr. Zenatello. Associated with the other two eminent Shakespearean scholars in this presentation of the Boito-Verdi edition was Mario Sammarco as the subtle Iago. That a considerable and grave audience would assemble to contemplate this dramatic spectacle was to be expected. But it must be recorded that the most joyous demonstrations were made at precisely the points where Verdi yielded to the temptations of the old fashioned operatic lights.

The great Italian's "Otello" has not been heard in this town since the season of 1902-03 at the Metropolitan Opera House. It was restored to the local stage in the previous January to afford Mr. Alvarez an opportunity to impersonate the Moor. In 1902-03 it was given three times, the first on November 24, the opening night, and the last on December 27. At the first of these performances Mme. Eames was the Desdemona. In earlier years "Otello" was performed with Tamagno in the title rôle and Maurel as Iago. But that is another story.

Last night's performance might easily suggest several lines of comment. If the aesthetic mind were inclined to muse on the office which Verdi's music performed for Shakespeare's tragedy as transmuted by Boito it would probably lose itself in speculation as to the precise limits of the illusive power of the tonal art. There were moments in last evening's presentation of the tragedy when the actors seemed to vie with Booth and McCullough and others of elder days.

One of these came when Mr. Sammarco walked up and down as if in ruminative mood and constructed for the audience the infidel creed of Iago. Another and a far more thrilling one arrived when Mr. Zenatello as Otello delivered the splendid "Adieu" which was once "Farwell, thou pomp and pride and glorious circumstance of war." At the end of the second act, in which these two passages and the stormy duet following Otello's wild cry of "Bianco" were heard, the audience burst into such a storm of applause as is rarely known in an American opera house.

And yet that speculative mind would surely hesitate to attribute all the thrills, as the audience apparently did, to the interpretation of the singers. That speculative mind would doubtless have weighed the singers in the balance against the matter which they sang and have arrived at the conclusion that the music itself was actually the interpreter of the music itself.

But whether this same speculative mind ever arrived at a conclusion or not, it would be certain to confess to itself that the music gained something from the sheer physical power poured into it by the singers. No one has ever suspected Mr. Sammarco of subtlety, and in such passages as the story of Cassio's dream he showed himself last night to be literally an honest Iago. But he showed force and intellectual vigor, and he sang the music so that it had at least a fair opportunity to speak for itself.

Mr. Zenatello's Otello was without question the most successful interpretation he has yet offered to New York. And this, too, was chiefly because of the music. He sang it honestly. He has precisely the right kind of voice for this rôle, a hard, brilliant, peeling tenor, with far reaching high tones. Once the lyric duet of the first act is out of the way Otello has little to do but declaim and sometimes to shout. Mr. Zenatello met these requirements fully and with a youthful fire and magnetism which made themselves felt. He is not an accomplished actor, but he succeeded in making a theatrical effect with the part.

Mme. Melba was the Desdemona. This is not a part of wide possibilities. For Desdemona is only an agency for the development of the character of Otello. The duet of act I and the "Willow" song and "Ave Maria" of act IV are the soprano's best opportunities—unless she has emotional acting in her scale. It was in these parts of the opera that Mme. Melba was heard to the best advantage.

Others in the cast were Mrs. Doris as Emilia, Mr. Venturini as Cassio, Mr. Montanari as Rodrigo and Mr. de Segura as Ludovico. The usual attention to details was shown. The chorus sang with much spirit, especially in the drinking song of Iago in the first act. The orchestra was more satisfying in the treble passages than in those containing detailed treatment. Cleofante Campanini conducted. He also conducted when the work was first given in this country twenty years ago.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.

"L'Elisir d'Amore" and "Cavalleria Rusticana." Please the Audience.

At the Metropolitan Opera House last night a large audience had an opportunity to hear two operas, Donizetti's "L'Elisir d'Amore" and "Cavalleria Rusticana." These two works formed a programme of sharp and stimulating contrasts. To leap from the facile and elementary comedy of "L'Elisir d'Amore" into the strident and tense tragedy of "Cavalleria Rusticana" gives the nerves a shock that is or is not enjoyable, according to the temperament. But as most of those who go to the opera go merely to hear tunes, and as there are plenty of good ones in both works, many sets of nerves escape any sensation at all beyond that gentle tickling which proceeds from the excitement of auditory vibrations in the eardrums.

As to the large part of last night's audience one of the chief joys of the evening was the state of being in the presence of so many celebrated opera singers at one sitting. For in "L'Elisir d'Amore" Mme. Sembrich was the Adina, Mr. Bonci the Nemorino and Mr. Campanari the Sergeant Belcore. Marie Mattfeld as Giannina and Mr. Paterni as Dr. Dulcamara also sang.

In "Cavalleria Rusticana" Emmy Destinn was the Santuzza, Maria Gey the Lola and Pasquale Amato the Alfio. Miss Mattfeld sang Lucia and Mr. Martin as Turiddu also sang. Mr. Martin is not called celebrated yet, but if he keeps on he has been going he will eventually get himself talked about. He may even

GOLDWIN SMITH'S 88 YEARS

A LOOK BACKWARD, FOR THE CORNELL STUDENTS.

Democracy Triumphant and the United States Laying Behind, His Summary of the Political Changes During a Long Life—The Advance of Science.

ITHACA, Dec. 25.—In a Christmas message to the students of Cornell University, where he has at one time a professor, Goldwin Smith, the English publicist, scholar and educator, reviews for his friends in Ithaca the remarkable changes that have taken place in the world during his lifetime. Some months ago he promised to write a message for the Cornell Era if he could still move his pen, for his eighty-six years made it difficult for him to write much, he said. He fulfilled his promise, and the Christmas number of the magazine contains a short article entitled "Then and Now." It says:

"Eighty years ago in an old house of an old English town a little boy was lying in bed listening to the Christmas chimes, perhaps to the last call of the watchman on the street, and looking at the servant lighting the fire with the first coal and the underwood of the old wood. Since that morning what changes!"

"The main storm of the French Revolution may be said to have ended at Waterloo. But there has been a series of afterbattles which have changed the political face of all Europe and is now apparently extending itself to the hitherto stagnant East. We may set down as one measure to the same account the overthrow by civil war of the same power in the United States.

"The impelling force everywhere has been democracy, generally triumphant, advancing to rule apparently even in Russia and in England completely possessed of the legislative seat of power. The House of Commons, though a remnant of aristocratic control still retains a precarious existence in the House of Lords.

"The United States now instead of being the vanguard of democracy, is almost at its rear. The power of the Presidency and the Senate making its Constitution in some respects the most conservative of the set.

"The progress of the present movement, than the political movement and fraught with ultimate change is the advance of science, which in two or three generations has been almost miraculously mechanized, mechanized with it. Mechanical invention, with steamship, rail and telegraph, is bringing the nations into far closer communication and making of the globe a commonwealth.

"Even this movement in India is due in no small measure to the substitution for the long voyage around the Cape of the shorter route by the Suez Canal. Magical in locomotion has been the change.

"About half a century ago Greville, as he tells us in his 'Memoirs,' was traveling by the first half of the English railroads. He shuddered at hearing that an engine driver had been going at the perilous pace of forty-five miles an hour, but he is happy to learn that the man has been dismissed by the company.

"Emigration has now become so easy that the labor markets are becoming fuel. The demarcations of national character are hardly perceptible. Language must always be a boundary. But even this, commerce and industry being almost always bilingual, is becoming a less sharp dividing line.

"All nations are called the heirs of all climates. That little boy would have to grow a little age or beyond, he would taste a banana. The expansion of commerce has led to the expansion of the world. The humble cakewalk in old Reading, at which that little boy bought cake, has become the great bazaar of Huntley & Palmer, employing thousands of men.

"The growth of physical science, or the increase of its influence over the mind, have had the most momentous effects in modern spheres. The Christmas chimes, when the child first heard them, spoke to all hearts alike, both of home and the Church. To not a few they now speak of the growth of science, of the growth of the material in man, let the evolutionists remember, advances and rises. The best does not.

ETHORIZED PATIENT KILLED IN AN ELEVATOR.

HACON, Wis., Dec. 25.—Miss Mary Hardy, aged 72, met death in an elevator accident at St. Mary's Hospital to-day. She was to be operated upon and had been put under an anesthetic in her room and was placed on a transporting table and taken to the elevator to be carried to the operating room.

A sudden drop of the elevator caused the inert body to roll to the floor. The nurse in charge became excited, it is supposed, and ordered a wire cable which operated the elevator, causing the elevator to shoot up. The patient's head was hanging over the edge of the elevator platform and was caught between the door and platform, causing the elevator to stop. The patient's neck was broken and her head crushed.

Physicians who were there to perform the operation witnessed the accident, but were unable to prevent it. Relatives of Miss Hardy were in the hospital waiting room and were told of her death.

THE SEAGERS.

Sailing to-day by the White Star liner Baltic for Queenstown and Liverpool: Col. and Mrs. J. M. Bristol, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Cassatt, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Campion, E. S. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O'Rourke, Mr. and Mrs. K. P. Quatrecas, Miss Mildred Minton Scott, J. J. Rathbone and wife, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lyons, American Vice-consul, and Miss Alice Page Converse and Strathairn.

Sailing by the Atlantic Transporter liner Minneapolis for London: Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Raymond, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Bond, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Randolph, Mrs. M. M. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Wright and J. A. C. Mason.

Aboard the Royal Mail steamship Trent for Southampton by way of the West Indies and Colon: Bishop and Mrs. J. M. Bristol, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Cassatt, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Campion, E. S. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O'Rourke, Mr. and Mrs. K. P. Quatrecas, Miss Mildred Minton Scott, J. J. Rathbone and wife, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lyons, American Vice-consul, and Miss Alice Page Converse and Strathairn.

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SHELDON CASE PROBLEMS

POLICE STICK TO THE THEORY THAT HE KILLED HIMSELF.

Brooklyn Detective Who Has Been at Work on the Case Thinks That the Student Planned to Make Himself a Hero and Went Beyond His Own Plans.

Lieut. William Colby of the Bronx detective bureau and the men under him who have been investigating the death of Dean Dwight Sheldon, the New York University student who was found bound hand and foot and shot through the body in the cellar of Dean Charles H. Snow's home on the university grounds on Wednesday morning, believe that if they knew a little bit more about the character of the young man, his habits of thought and the books he had read they would be even more strengthened in the theory they hold that Sheldon himself fired the shot which resulted in his death.

As it Colby believes that when Coroner McDonald has an inquest into the death he has enough facts in his possession to demonstrate beyond a question that no assailant could have been present and that all the evidence of an assault could have been manufactured by the student.

One reason why the lieutenant would like to learn more about the common trend of mind that had been young Sheldon's is the similarity between some of the essential details of the tragedy of last Wednesday and those of an assault at the hands of a robber which Sheldon asserted happened last March. The facts concerning this former alleged assault, as given out by Sheriff Colby yesterday, were: A student named Dean Snow was in the basement of Dean Snow's house on Wednesday morning and had run down the front stairs. In the vestibule leading to the basement door he had encountered a burglar, who pushed him up against a jardiniere near the newel post of the stairs and clubbed him over the head with a slungshot. The burglar then escaped from the house by a hall window.

Investigation made by Colby at the time showed that the heavy iron bars of the outside cellar door had been forced apart a little, but not far enough to allow the passage of a man's hand. The door had been unlocked from the inside, not through the forcing of the lock. The burglar slipped the door open by the opening of a door leading from the hallway on the main floor down to the cellar. The opening of this door either by one inside of the hall or ascending the cellar steps would have sprung the alarm.

At the time Colby was told by the student that he had been out by the burglar as well as clubbed. He showed out in his clothing, but would not allow the detective to inspect the cuts he claimed to have on his body. Another discrepancy in the student's story told after the first assault lay in the fact that although he claimed to have seen the intruder escape from the house through a window there were no tracks on the snow outside the window.

Least, Colby dropped the case after investigating it one day. He did not explain to Dean Snow why it was that he gave up the pursuit of the burglar whom nobody but young Sheldon had seen.

The door leading from the cellar directly to the outside of Dean Snow's house, the one which had been unlocked from the inside after two of its bars had been slightly bent, as Colby said last March, was found locked on Wednesday morning. Nothing but the old marks of tampering was visible on the bars. This entrance is the only one that gives upon the cellar save the door leading to the house leading to the cellar steps.

Lieut. Colby is led to the belief that young Sheldon planned the affair and killed himself chiefly because of the conflicting statements he had made to explain the presence of the revolver.

When Mrs. Snow was testifying before the coroner on Thursday she said that Sheldon told her that he was lying wounded when he was grappled with the supposed intruder he had his revolver in his pocket. Dr. N. B. Van Etten testified that the student had told him that revolver was in the cellar when he was shot and that he had a burglar manage to find Sheldon's revolver in a strange cellar.

Another query that seems to have weight in the light of a detective's experience with criminals is this: Why did the burglar, working between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning under a floor where people were moving about, subdue Sheldon after trying to cut him, then without gagging him or in any way trying to prevent an outcry deliberately take the risk of capture by shooting him? That is not the way ordinary burglars prepare for a get-away.

The student was bound hand and foot. Lieut. Colby says that in all of his experience he never encountered a case where a man was bound hand and foot and then had a victim's hands in front of his chest, where the knot could be untied with the teeth. Yet one tying himself and having to use his teeth to assist him could not be so well bound as his own hands behind him. It is not a trick demanding great dexterity; in the case of Sheldon the knot was uppermost, lying, as Miss Larkin, the governess in the Snow household, testified, across the back of the left hand.

Even with his hands bound about the wrists or even about the palms a revolver held between the fingers could be employed, although it would have to be used against the body from the inside, inflicting a wound upon himself. The fact about the wound on Sheldon's abdomen was powder burned as was also that the tips of two fingers of the left hand.

I think that this young man did not intend to kill himself. It is the way Colby defines the motive behind what he believes to have been Sheldon's act, but that he wanted to make himself a hero, to give the impression that he was very much of a hero, even though it might cause him some pain. Perhaps he was morbid and could take pleasure in imagining that he had put up such a big act with a burglar—a great deal more pleasure in the knowledge that those about him believed he had saved their property and maybe his life.

Coroner McDonald has not yet set the date for the inquest into Sheldon's death. Nor has he heard of any measures that Dean Snow or Edward W. Thormalm may have taken against him because of his attitude toward Mrs. Snow when she was testifying before him on Thursday.

NEW ANTI-TAMMANY CROWD

Announces Its First Public Meeting on Jackson Day.

The new Democratic organization which is to oppose Tammany at the Mayoralty election of next year announced its first public meeting on Jackson day, January 8. Immediately after the recent election at a meeting of Democrats in sympathy with the movement an address was drawn and a committee of five was appointed to procure signatures. This committee comprised Charles Shepard Beardsley, president of the State Savings Bank; Thomas F. McCann, former mayor of New York; and three Aldermen from the Twenty-eighth district; Thomas J. Hayden, William Cleveland Cox and Charles E. Jones.

Among those active in the organization in addition to the members of the committee are Benjamin Meyers of the Eighth district, ex-Alderman John D. Florence of the Twenty-first, Judge Charles L. Ullman of the Twenty-second, Benjamin Franklin of the Thirtieth, John A. Wrede, until recently secretary of the Tammany organization in the Twenty-third, and Thomas J. McManus who contested with Thomas J. McManus the last Tammany primary in that district and who was before that a member of the Plunkitt faction; Thomas Carroll, a member of the Twenty-third, and Martin of the Seventeenth, who ran on the Democratic ticket against W. H. Douglas for Congress in 1907; James L. McNamara of the Thirtieth, G. T. Sprague of the Twenty-first, and John H. John Fraser James A. Moorehead, John B. McGoldrick, Conrad Muller, Jr., and former Assemblyman Thomas F. Long.

Burned to Death in a Shop.

RED BANK, N. J., Dec. 25.—In a fire in Burns' wheelwright shop to-day this morning Henry Garrick, an employee, was burned to death. Garrick, who was about 50 years old, had been drinking and is supposed to have thrown a match in some inflammable material.

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